

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION



Appeal process for the 2001-2002 Entitlement Cal Grant Applicants who do not have a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Commission's Processing System

This fact sheet is pertinent for undergraduate Entitlement Cal Grant applicants only.

This fact sheet will help provide guidance to California's financial aid applicants whose 2001-2002 FAFSA information was not included in the 2001-2002 Cal Grant Entitlement award process. To assist the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) in determining why your application was not included, please review the following information carefully. Affected applicants will have to file a formal appeal, including the documents listed below in order to receive further consideration for the Commission's programs.

Why an Application Might Not Appear on the Commission's System

The primary cause for applications not being processed onto our system is that they were incomplete. Late applications are also not accepted. The Commission holds the applicant responsible for securing proof that the filing deadline was met and that the application was mailed to the correct location.

The following is a list of circumstances why: 1) a student's application was **not entered** onto the Commission's system, and 2) their information is not available for the Grant Services staff to use when researching student inquiries:

- Applications were incomplete and did not contain enough information for the Federal application processor to be able to produce an Expected Family Contribution (EFC);
- California was not listed as state of legal residence and there were no California colleges listed;
- Application filing did not make the March 2, 2001, filing deadline;
- Applications mailed to the wrong address.

How to Appeal your Application Status

If, after reviewing the information on the reverse of this document, you feel you would qualify for a Commission award, please submit your written appeal requesting reconsideration. Your written appeal should explain any unusual circumstances that you are aware of happening during the processing of your FAFSA. Also, provide as much supporting information and documentation as possible, including all of the following items:

1. A photocopy of your original FAFSA, and any subsequent FAFSA's, mailed to the processor;
2. A photocopy of all pages of every green colored Student Aid Report (SAR) you have received. (Note: Your SAR has your social security number in the lower right hand corner followed by the first two letters of your last name followed by two numbers. If those numbers are an "01," this is your first SAR, if "02," it is your second, etc.);
3. A photocopy of your proof of mailing for the FAFSA and Grade Point Average (GPA) Verification Form by the filing deadline (i.e., Certificate of Mailing); and
4. A photocopy of your properly completed GPA Verification Form.

Review your SAR for Accuracy

If your appeal is successful and the Commission makes the decision to consider you for a Commission award, your SAR must be complete and accurate when we process your SAR information. Please review your **entire SAR** for completeness and accuracy. Specifically, please review your responses to SAR questions 13, 24 and 25, 26, 29, 30. Step 6 of the SAR must list at least one California college, university or vocational school. An incomplete or inaccurate SAR which you have had ample time to correct will not be accepted, even after your appeal is received.

Before submitting your appeal for reconsideration

You should be aware of the following information before submitting an appeal for reconsideration. The Commission has already completed the 2001-2002 Cal Grant award competition. Recipients were selected from those applications that were submitted timely with complete and accurate information. Grants were awarded using the income and asset ceilings, and GPA selection criteria indicated below. (Income ceilings are based on 2000 taxed and untaxed income as reported on the FAFSA). If you do not meet these criteria it is not likely that you will be selected for a 2001-2002 Cal Grant.

It is possible that additional funding for more Cal Grants may later become available.

Income and asset ceilings used for Cal Grant selection

For dependent students and independent students with dependents (other than a spouse):

Cal Grant A & C Programs

Family income ceiling levels

\$78,842 with 6 or more family members

\$73,097 with 5 family members

\$68,202 with 4 family members

\$62,776 with 3 family members

\$61,286 with 2 family members

Cal Grant B Program:

Family income ceiling levels

\$43,305 with 6 or more family members

\$40,113 with 5 family members

\$35,857 with 4 family members

\$32,239 with 3 family members

\$28,622 with 2 family members

\$25,004 for a single student

Maximum assets = \$52,774 for Cal Grants A, B and C.

For independent students without children or other dependents (other than a spouse):

Cal Grant A, B and C Programs:

\$25,004 for single students

\$28,622 for married students (no other dependents)

Maximum assets = \$25,110 for Cal Grants A, B and C.

CAL GRANT GPA CUTOFF

An absolute GPA selection cutoff is used only for both Cal Grant A and B programs.

Cal Grant A

3.00 GPA

Cal Grant B

2.00 GPA

Please mail your appeal with complete documentation immediately. Your request will be thoroughly reviewed and you will be notified of our decision within six weeks after receipt of request. Please be advised that our secondary review **does not** guarantee that you will receive an award. Questions regarding the appeal process, but not a specific appeal, may be made using our e-mail address: custsvcs@csac.ca.gov. Send all requested documents to:

California Student Aid Commission
Grant Programs Customer Service
P. O. Box 419027
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9027